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Thursday, March 21, 2013 7:16 PM
AppropriationTestimony
Retired Teachers Health Fund

The bedrock of our social and economic system is trust. Contractual obligations form the basis of that trust. If these obligations are ignored or "overridden" by government fiat, citizens cannot place trust in elected officials, government, social or economic institutions. Teachers make regular contributions to the retired teachers health insurance fund with the expectation that the State will make it's contractual contributions. Breaking this contract undermines the trust that is necessary for civil society. Why should citizens continue to uphold any social obligations if the government they elect refuses to do so? I urge the Appropriations Committee to reject the breach of trust represented by this budget proposal. Law abiding citizens obey the law, honor contractual obligations and place their faith in government to do the same. Civil society depends on it.

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